THE CUCKOO.

THE NEWS AND GOSSIP OF THE DAY.

VOL. I.—No. 23. WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 1881. ONE PENNY.

CHAMPAGNE.—Vintage, 1874.

ROPER FRERES', at 48s.
1st Quality, Medium Dry.

ROPER FRERES', at 48s.
For Luncheons.

ROPER FRERES', at 48s.
For Wedding Breakfasts.

ROPER FRERES', at 48s.
For Ball Suppers.

ROPER FRERES', at 48s.
For Hunt Breakfasts.

ROPER FRERES', at 48s.
For Regimental Messes.

ROPER FRERES', at 48s.
For Volunteer Dinners.

ROPER FRERES', at 48s.
May be obtained of all Wine Merchants.

POTOSI! POTOSI!! POTOSI!!!

JAMAICA CIGARS.

When you ask your Tobacconist for Messrs. THOMPSON and WEITZMANN'S POTOSI CIGARS,
See that you get them,
As enormous injury has been done to the reputation of these splendid cigars by imitations made in London, and actually sold in bundles as Messrs. THOMPSON and WEITZMANN'S POTOSI CIGARS.
Please observe that Messrs. THOMPSON and WEITZMANN'S genuine Potosi Cigars are packed only in boxes labelled with their name and branded with their Trade Mark.
Sole Wholesale Agents for the Potosi Cigar, Messrs. Gaspard, Bell, and Co., Queen's-buildings, 46, Queen Victoria-street, London, E.C.

Now ready, 2nd Edition, cloth gilt, 1s., by post 1s. 2d.
THE
LETTER-WRITER'S VADE MECUM
and DICTIONARY SUPPLEMENT.
The Indispensable Companion of all engaged in Correspondence. It contains Hundreds of Word-forms not to be found in the ordinary Dictionary, a complete List of the Participles of Verbs, Homonyms, Synonyms, and Foreign Words and Phrases in every-day use. It should always be at hand to solve those doubts as to the correct spelling of words which occur at times to most Letter-writers.
London: C. W. DEACON & CO., 455, Strand, W.C.

Now ready, price 1s., post free 1s. 2½d.,
"THE WHITE CAT."
A complete Novel, by ERNEST WARREN, Author of "Four Flirts." 50 Illustrations by Hal Ludlow, engraved by Dalziel Bros. At all booksellers, railway bookstalls, and at "Judy" Office, 99, Shoe-lane, E.C.

ACCIDENT INSURANCE COMPANY
(Limited). No. 7, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, E.C.
General Accidents. Railway Accidents. | Personal Injuries. Death by Accidents.
C. HARDING, Manager.

DELACRE'S
EXTRACT OF BEEF.
Advices have This Day been received that the
FIRST PRIZE
AT THE
MELBOURNE EXHIBITION
Has been awarded for the above well-known Brand.
Offices, 48, King William-street, London, E.C., 31st March, 1881. JOHN S. NEWLYN, Manager.

THE CLAY CROSS COMPANY'S
CELEBRATED COAL.
This day's prices—Best 23s.; Seconds, 21s.
Orders to Chief Office—
12, BURWOOD PLACE, W.

Now ready, price 10s. 6d. each volume,
THE FIRST, SECOND, AND THIRD SERIES OF
CELEBRITIES AT HOME;
Being a Selection from the Articles which have appeared under that title in the WORLD.

CONTENTS OF FIRST SERIES:
H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES AT SANDRINGHAM.
MR. TENNYSON AT HASLEMERE.
MR. JOHN BRIGHT AT ONE ASH.
MR. GLADSTONE AT HAWARDEN.
MR. HENRY IRVING IN BOND STREET.
THE EARL OF BEACONSFIELD AT HUGHENDEN.
MR. SPURGEON IN NIGHTINGALE LANE.
MR. LOWE AT SHERBROOKE.
THE DUKE OF BEAUFORT AT BADMINTON.
MR. W. G. GRACE AT DOWNEND.
GUSTAVE DORE IN THE RUE ST. DOMINIQUE ST. GERMAIN.
PRESIDENT GRANT AT THE WHITE HOUSE.
THE EMPRESS EUGENIE AT CHISLEHURST.
THOMAS CARLYLE AT CHEYNE ROW.
THE MARQUIS OF SALISBURY AT HATFIELD.
THE DUC DECAZES AT THE QUAI D'ORSAY.
SIR ROWLAND HILL, K.C.B., AT HAMPSTEAD.
THE EARL OF SHAFTESBURY AT ST. GILES'S HOUSE.
OUIDA AT VILLA FARINOLA.
MARSHAL DE MACMAHON AT THE ELYSEE.
CAPTAIN SHAW IN WATLING STREET.
DR. JOHN HENRY NEWMAN AT BIRMINGHAM.
MR. CHARLES MATHEWS IN BELGRAVIA.
EARL GRANVILLE AT WALMER CASTLE.
MISS M. E. BRADDON (MRS. MAXWELL) AT RICHMOND.
EARL RUSSELL AT PEMBROKE LODGE.
THE REV. HENRY WARD BEECHER AT BROOKLYN.

CONTENTS OF SECOND SERIES:
THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND GORDON AT GOODWOOD HOUSE.
PERE HYACINTHE AT GENEVA.
SIR HENRY THOMPSON IN WIMPOLE-STREET.
THE POPE AT THE VATICAN.
VICTOR HUGO IN THE RUE DE CLICHY.
MR. TOOLE AT ORME-SQUARE.
DR. PUSEY AT CHRIST CHURCH.
MR. FREDERICK LEIGHTON, R.A., AT KENSINGTON.
RICHARD WAGNER IN BAYREUTH.
PROFESSOR TYNDALL IN ALBEMARLE-STREET.
MR. MATTHEW DAWSON AT HEATH HOUSE.
M. JULES SIMON IN THE PLACE DE LA MADELEINE.
MR. GEORGE AUGUSTUS SALA IN GOWER-STREET.
LORD HOUGHTON AT FRYSTON HALL.
MR. SANTLEY AT ST. JOHN'S WOOD.
M. GAMBETTA IN THE CHAUSSEE D'ANTIN.
FATHER IGNATIUS AT LLANTHONY.
MR. DARWIN AT DOWN.
PRINCE BISMARCK IN THE WILHELMSTRASSE.
CARDINAL MANNING AT ARCHBISHOP'S HOUSE, WESTMINSTER.
MR. J. J. MECHI AT TIPTREE HALL.
MR. GEORGE LEWIS AT ELY PLACE.
SIR WILLIAM THOMSON, F.R.S., AT GILMOREHILL.
PROFESSOR RUSKIN AT BRANTWOOD.
MR. GEORGE PAYNE IN QUEEN STREET.
KAISER WILHELM AT BABELSBERG.
THE BISHOP OF MANCHESTER AT BISHOP'S COURT.
SIR JOSEPH WHITWORTH AT STANCLIFFE.

CONTENTS OF THIRD SERIES:
THE MARQUIS OF HARTINGTON AT HARDWICK HALL.
THE ASTRONOMER-ROYAL AT GREENWICH.
ROBERT PECK AT RUSSLEY.
MR. ARCHIBALD FORBES AT MAIDA VALE.
MR. SIMS REEVES AT BEULAH HILL.
MOLTKE AT THE GENERAL STAFF.
COLONEL HENDERSON AT SCOTLAND YARD.
MR. JOWETT AT BALLIOL.
LORD CHIEF JUSTICE COCKBURN IN HERTFORD STREET.
M. EMILE DE GIRARDIN IN THE RUE DE LA PEROUSE.
MARK TWAIN AT HARTFORD.
MR. WILKIE COLLINS IN GLOUCESTER PLACE.
MR. FRANK BUCKLAND IN ALBANY STREET.
MDLLE. SARAH BERNHARDT IN THE AVENUE DE VILLIERS.
THE EARL OF WILTON AT EGERTON LODGE.
MR. JOHN ARTHUR ROEBUCK AT ASHLEY-PLACE.
M. DE LESSEPS IN THE RUE RICHEPANSE.
SIR ROBERT PEEL AT DRAYTON MANOR.
LORD NAPIER AT THE CONVENT, GIBRALTAR.
THE EARL OF CARNARVON AT HIGHCLERE.
THE DUKE OF MARLBOROUGH AT DUBLIN CASTLE.
SIR GARNET WOLSELEY IN PORTMAN-SQUARE.
THE EARL OF ROSEBERY AT THE DURDANS.
MR. W. HARRISON AINSWORTH AT LITTLE ROCKLEY.
LORD DERBY AT KNOWSLEY.
MONSIGNOR CAPEL AT KENSINGTON.
THE EARL OF DUFFERIN AT RIDEAU HALL.

PUBLISHED AT
1, YORK-STREET, COVENT-GARDEN, W.C.

THE
HOLBORN
RESTAURANT,
218, HIGH HOLBORN.

THE FAMOUS TABLE D'HOTE DINNER in the GRAND SALON, the PRINCE'S SALON, and the DUKE'S SALON, at Separate Tables every Evening. 5.30 to 8.30.

SOUPS; TWO KINDS OF FISH; ENTREES; JOINTS; SWEETS; ICES; CHEESE, in variety; SALAD, &c. 3s. 6d.

A SELECTION OF INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC OF A REFINED CHARACTER IS PERFORMED BY A COMPLETE ORCHESTRA DURING DINNER.

DINNERS AND LUNCHEONS FROM DAILY BILL OF FARE.

MINTON'S CHINA.
PRICES as at the MANUFACTORY.
SPECIALITIES in TABLE DECORATIONS.
ALL the NEWEST PATTERNS in COMMON and BEST.
DINNER and DESSERT SERVICES.
BREAKFAST and TEA SERVICES.
TOILET SERVICES.
PLAIN ENGRAVED and CUT GLASS SERVICES.
Every Description and Price.

W. P. & G. PHILLIPS,
ARTISTS AND DESIGNERS IN POTTERY AND PORCELAIN,
357 358, & 359, OXFORD ST., LONDON, W.

MELBOURNE EXHIBITION, 1881.—FIRST PRIZE TO BORD'S PIANOS.
On Sale, with 25 per cent. Discount for Cash, or on the Three Years' Hire System, 15s. per Month. Second-hand, on the Three Years' System, 10s. 6d. per Month. Illustrated Lists Free of CHARLES STILES and CO., 42, Southampton-row, Holborn, W.C. Pianos exchanged.

NOTICE TO INVENTORS.
JULIUS HALL, Patent Agent, Obtains LETTERS PATENT and REGISTRATION OF DESIGN, 90, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

Now ready, price 1s. (post-free, 14 Stamps), the SIXTH EDITION of
PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS TO INVENTORS, containing CAUTION TO ALL INVENTORS; a Chapter on TRADE MARKS; a Chapter on METHOD OF OBTAINING LETTERS PATENT; and a Chapter containing 130 PRACTICAL MECHANICAL MOVEMENTS, with Explanation of each Diagram.
JULIUS HALL, 90, Chancery Lane.

NOTE to ADVERTISERS.—Advertise at the Lowest Cost in all the leading Papers. Every information. References to the best Firms and Papers. Advertisements sent through my agency receive the special attention of Newspaper Proprietors.—EDWARD B. PAGE, 108, Fleet-street, E.C.

BORWICK'S For BREAD, PASTRY AND PUDDINGS.
BAKING
FOUR GOLD MEDALS. POWDER.

AMUSEMENTS.

DRURY LANE.—THE NATIONAL THEATRE.—AUGUSTUS HARRIS, Lessee and Manager. THE WORLD, pronounced by the *Times* Newspaper, in its review of the theatrical year, to be most undoubtedly the greatest success of the year. By Augustus Harris, William Rignold, Macklin, Gibson, Huntly, Boleyn, Lilly, Gresham, Ridley, and Harry Jackson; Misses Fanny Josephs, Fanny Brough, Maude De Vere, M'Namara, and Louisa Payne.

DRURY LANE.—THE STORES, at 7.30. Director of the Stores, Mr. Walter Pelham; Miss Kathleen Corri, Mr. Douglas Cox, Mr. De Lange, Mr. Gregory, Mr. Boughton, Mr. Buccalessi, Mr. Weldon.

LYCEUM.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. HENRY IRVING.—THE CUP.—THE CORSICAN BROTHERS.—Alfred Tennyson's Tragedy, THE CUP, TO NIGHT, at a Quarter to Eight. Miss Ellen Terry, Mr. Irving, Mr. Terriss. THE CORSICAN BROTHERS at Half-past Nine. Mr. Irving. Box Office (Mr. Hurst) open 10 to 5. Seats booked by Letter or Telegram.

THE BELLE'S STRATAGEM, April 16. This Theatre will be closed in Passion Week, until Saturday, April 16, when will be presented Mr. Cowley's Comedy, THE BELLE'S STRATAGEM. Doricourt, Mr. Irving; Letitia Hardy, Miss Ellen Terry; Miss Sophie Young, Mr. Howe, Mr. Terriss, Mr. Pinero, Mr. Elwood, Mr. Beaumont, &c. &c. Preceded by Alfred Tennyson's Tragedy, THE CUP. Seats can now be booked.—LYCEUM.

ADELPHI THEATRE.—Managers, Messrs. A. and S. GATTI.—THIS EVENING, at 8, MICHAEL STROGOFF. Mr. C. Warner, Mr. H. J. Byron, and Mrs. Hermann Vezin; Messrs. J. Fernandez, Irish, Rosier, Warren, Russell, Palmer, Proctor; Mesdames Bernard-Beere and Gerard. At 7.15, BARNEY THE BARON. Mr. Shiel Barry, Miss Clara Jecks.

OLYMPIC.—JENNIE LEE.—JO.—FAREWELL PERFORMANCES.—THIS EVENING, at 8.30. Miss JENNIE LEE; Mesdames Dolores Drummond, M. Leighton, F. Smithers, C. Steele, F. Leyton, C. Humphreys, &c.; Mr. J. P. Burnett; Messrs. Howell, Dolby, Compton, Andrews, Leigh, Crisp, &c. Preceded, at 7.30, by FAMILY JARS. Misses Smithers and Leyton. Messrs. Compton, Crisp, Grahame. Box Office open 10 till 5. No Booking Fees. Carriages 10.45.—General Manager, Mr. J. H. COBBE.—OLYMPIC.

GAIETY THEATRE, Strand.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. JOHN HOLLINGSHEAD.—7.0, OPERETTA. 7.20, LITTLE MOTHER: Miss L. Venne, &c. 8.30, FORTY THIEVES (Burlesque) in 3 Acts. Misses Farren, Vaughan, Gilchrist, Broughton, Gilbert, Hewett; Terry, Royce, Squire, Dallas, Two Macs, and Chorus.

GLOBE.—The THEATRE will REOPEN on SATURDAY, the 16th April, with an entirely new Opera Comique, in Three Acts, by Offenbach, entitled MARGOT. First Time in this country. Produced under the immediate direction of Mr. H. B. Farnie, supported by a strongly augmented Company and elaborate Mise-en-Scene. Full particulars will shortly be announced.

ROYALTY.—Manageress, KATE LAWLER.—Doors open at 6.30. THE SECRET, 6.45. H. J. Byron's highly-successful Comic Drama, BOW BELLS, at 7.30; to conclude, at 9.30, with the great Royalty Burlesque, DON JUAN JUNIOR, now played for over 130 nights. Pronounced by the Press to be an overwhelming triumph. Kate Lawler, Harriet Coveney, Emma Ritta, Ruth Francis, Annie Lawler, Florence Lavender, Connie Carlin, and Elise Ward; Edward Righton, Seymour Dallas, T. P. Haynes, Frank Wyatt, Herbert Kelcey, H. Martell, and Frank Cooper. Musical Director, Herr Max Schroter; Secretary and Treasurer, Frank Rothsay; Acting and General Business Manager for Kate Lawler, Cecil Raleigh.

HENGLER'S GRAND CIRQUE.—The Hippodramatic Spectacle TURPIN'S RIDE TO YORK and the DEATH of BLACK BESS, presenting all the notable incidents of that famous event, introducing the best trained Mare in Europe. Dick Turpin, Mr. F. C. Hengler, jun. Preceded by unequalled Equestrian and Gymnastic Achievements, interspersed by the drolleries of the immitable Clowns.—Commencing EVERY EVENING at 7.45.

CRITERION THEATRE.—THIS EVENING, at 7.50, BRAVE HEARTS. At 8.45, WHERE'S THE CAT? Mr. Charles Wyndham, Messrs. Herbert, Standing, H. Beerbohm-Tree, G. Giddens, Walter Everard, A. M. Denison, W. J. Hill; Mesds. Eastlake, Rose Saker, M. Rorke, Edith Bruce, C. Harvey, Mrs. John Wood.

NEW SADLER'S WELLS.—Miss BATEMAN as MARY WARNER for THIS WEEK ONLY. TO-NIGHT, at 8, Tom Taylor's Popular Play, MARY WARNER. Miss Bateman, Messrs. E. H. Brooke, E. Lyons, A. Redwood, R. Lyons, B. Leslie, G. Canninge, &c.; Mrs. Huntley and Miss Compton. Prices from 6d. to 7s. 6d. Doors open at 6.30. Farce at 7. Box Office open 11 to 5.

COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. WILSON BARRETT.—TO-NIGHT, at 8, ROMEO AND JULIET. At 7, TWO OLD BOYS. Messrs. Wilson Barrett, J. Ryder, Forbes-Robertson, Clifford Cooper, Price, Norman Forbes, Norman, Darley, &c., and G. W. Anson; Mesdames Helena Modjeska, Emery, Giffard, Garnier, Clifford, &c., and E. G. Le Thiere. Doors open at 6.45, commence at 7. "Romeo and Juliet," at 8. Carriages at 11. Box Office daily from 11 to 5. No Fees. Morning Performance of ROMEO AND JULIET, SATURDAY NEXT, APRIL 9, at 2 p.m.—Acting Manager, Mr. H. Herman.

PRINCE of WALES'S ROYAL THEATRE. Sole Lessee, and Manager, Mr. EDGAR BRUCE.—TO-NIGHT, at 8.40, a New Comedy, in Three Acts, called THE COLONEL, by F. C. Burnand. Preceded, at 7.50, by IN HONOUR BOUND, by Sydney Grundy. Mr. Coghlan, Mr. Flockton, Mr. W. Herbert, Mr. Eric Bayley, Mr. Rowland Buckstone, and Mr. Edgar Bruce; Miss Amy Roselle, Miss Myra Holme, Miss C. Grahame, Miss Eva Sothern, Mrs. Leigh Murray, &c. Doors open at 7.30; commence at 7.50. Box Office open daily, from Eleven to Five.—THE COLONEL. MATINEE, THIS DAY (WEDNESDAY) and SATURDAY NEXT. Doors open at 2, commence at 2.30. An early application for seats is necessary.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—THIS EVENING, at 7.45, an entirely New and Original Romantic Spectacular Drama of sensational interest, entitled BRANDED, written by Richard Lee. New and realistic Scenery by Charles Brooke. New Overture and incidental Music by Michael Connelly. New Military Costumes direct from the Army Contractors, Paris. The horses supplied by Mr. George Sanger. Preceded at 7.0 by Farce, THE INTRIGUE. Box-office open daily.—ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE. BRANDED.—Messrs. HENRY NEVILLE, Redmund, F. Archer, J. Beauchamp, F. Charles, C. Sidney, Allen Thomas, Hewitt, Escourt, Evens, Gardiner, Greville, W. Avondale, Chamberlain, Stirling, &c.; Misses Caroline Hill, Maud Milton, Katie Barry, &c.; Mrs. Huntley and Mrs. Lyons. The Drama produced under the direction of Mr. Harry Jackson.

STRAND THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. SWANBOROUGH.—THIS EVENING, at 8, a New and Original Opera Comique, in Three Acts, entitled OLIVETTE, adapted from the French of Chivot and Duru. Written and produced by H. B. Farnie. Preceded, at 7.30, by A SUMMER CLOUD. The Entertainment supported by a Powerful Company. Doors open at 7. Box Office open daily.—MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.0.

FOLLY.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. L. TOOLE. TO-NIGHT, at 7.30, HESTER'S MYSTERY. At 8, 355th Time, a New and Original Comedy, in Three Acts, by Henry J. Byron, called THE UPPER CRUST. Barnaby Doublechick, Mr. J. L. Toole. At 10, THE WIZARD OF THE WILDERNESS. Mr. J. L. Toole. Box Office open 10 till 5.—Prices: 1s. to £3 3s. No Free List. No Fees for Booking. Doors open at 7.—MORNING PERFORMANCE NEXT SATURDAY. Doors open 1.30. Toole in Three Pieces.

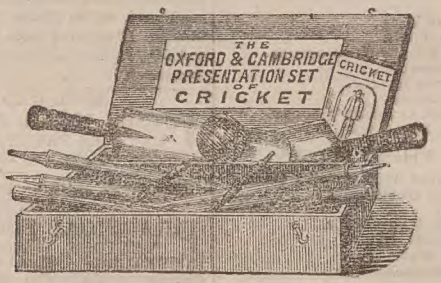
ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—TO-NIGHT, at 8.0 o'clock, will be produced JEANNE, JEANNETTE, AND JEANNETON, a New Comic Opera, in a Prologue and Three Acts, by MM. Clairville and Delacour. Music by P. Lacome. The English Libretto by R. Reece. Characters by Mesdames Loseby, St. Quinten, Alice May, Ivanova, Jamieson, Martino; Messrs. W. H. Woodfield, W. S. Penley, Kelleher, Power, Collini, Sweetman, and Fred Leslie.—TO-NIGHT. In Act II. is introduced a New Grand Mythological Ballet, entitled ENDYMION (Music by G. Jacobi): Danseuses, Mdlles. Pertoldi, Gillert, Rose, and Palladino, supported by the entire Corps de Ballet.

MOORE and BURGESS MINSTRELS, ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Last week of performance prior to the Easter Holidays. Last week of the immensely successful programme, which must necessarily be withdrawn, in the zenith of its success, it being the invariable practice to produce a new programme for the Easter holidays.—Fauteuils, 5s.; stalls, 3s.; area, 2s.; gallery, 1s. No fees.

LAST WEEK of the MOORE and BURGESS MINSTRELS' PERFORMANCE, at ST. JAMES'S HALL, before the Easter Holidays. Last week of the most successful programme ever produced by this Company.

LEEDS AND MANCHESTER.—IMPORTANT NOTICE.—The world-famed MOORE and BURGESS MINSTRELS will give PERFORMANCES at the great Town Hall, Leeds, and the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, during Passion Week, opening in the great St. James's Hall on Easter Monday, with a new monster programme.

IN AND OUT DOOR GAMES AGENCY.



NO. 1.—A DOUBLE SET of CRICKET in case complete, containing two polished bats, six polished stumps and bails, one double-seamed match ball. Price 10s. 6d.

NO. 2.—Ditto MATCH BATS, full-sized stumps, bails, and highly recommended. Price 21s.

NO. 3.—Ditto CANED-SPLICED BATS, best stumps (brass heads), iron shod, and bails, best match ball, and all of the best finish. Price 31s. 6d.

ORDERS, accompanied by Post-office Orders, payable to EDWARD LANE, will be despatched by return.

ILLUSTRATED LIST of GAMES sent post free on receipt of two stamps. Inventors of games are invited to correspond.

THE IN AND OUT DOOR GAMES AGENCY, 10, PATERNOSTER-SQUARE, LONDON, E.C.

MAPLE & CO.

ARE NOW OFFERING

THIRTY MILES OF

BEST BRUSSELS

CARPETS at 3s. 9d. per yard.

THESE GOODS, by some of the First Manufacturers, are of superior quality, the designs and colourings new and artistic. They are Is. per yard under the usual price asked at the West End for the same quality.

MAPLE & CO.,

TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD, LONDON.

"Cleanse the Blood."

OLD DR. JACOB TOWNSEND'S SARSAPARILLA.

Highly recommended for all kinds of Blood and Skin Diseases, Pimples, Eruptions, &c. The best Spring and Autumn Medicine.

SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS.

CAUTION.—GET THE RED AND BLUE WRAPPER, WITH THE DOCTOR'S HEAD IN THE CENTRE. No other is genuine. In bottles, 2s. 6d., 4s. 6d., and 11s.—Sold by all Druggists.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.—All Advertisements intended for insertion in the "CUCKOO" should reach the ADVERTISEMENT OFFICE, 86, FLEET STREET, E.C., by the EVENING before the DAY intended for their appearance.

H. FREEMAN.

THE CUCKOO

News and Gossip of the day.

VOL. I.—No 23. WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 1881. ONE PENNY.

MANAGER'S NOTICE.

Can be had of all Newsvendors, and at all Railway Stations.

THE CUCKOO can be sent by book post at the minimum postal te of ONE HALFPENNY.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

(INCLUDING POSTAGE, PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.)

Three Months	0 9 9
Six Months	0 19 6
Twelve Months	1 19 0

Post-Office Orders should be sent to Mr. FREDERICK EVANS, at 1, York Street, Covent Garden, W.C.; and made payable at the General Post-Office, London, E.C. Cheques to be crossed Ransom, Bouverie, & Co., 1, Pall Mall East.

N. V. B.—*Editor's Office (to which all literary contributions for* THE CUCKOO *should be addressed), 97, Fetter Lane, London, E.C. Advertisers will please address H. Freeman, 86, Fleet Street, E.C. Publishing Office, 1, York Street, Covent Garden, W.C.*

News from Abroad.

War has already invaded the frontier of the Candahar province. Girishk has been occupied by the Cabul troops, but not without at once arousing tribal dissensions. The Alizais are, of course, threatening to take to arms, and if Ayoub Khan is strong enough to give trouble, there will be trouble.

Sir Evelyn Wood is expected in Pretoria at the end of the week.

News from Basutoland continues unsatisfactory. The Cape is raising further large levies, both European and native, and the war fever seems to be again spreading to the tribes that had been partially conciliated. The Basutos themselves are in greater force than ever.

News to hand from Durban states that the inhabitants of Fort Elizabeth had marked their opinion of the disgraceful peace concluded with the Boers by burning the effigy of the Prime Minister, with the dismal concomitants of funeral bells tolling, and bands parading the streets with muffled drums and playing the "Dead March" in *Saul*.

A special telegram, detailing the proceedings, was sent by the leader of the movement to Mr. Gladstone.

Intelligence from Constantinople gives little ground for hoping that the Powers really mean to take steps to bring Greece to a reasonable frame of mind. An Identical Note, it is true, is under the consideration of the Ambassadors, which, after enumerating the efforts made by the Powers in the cause of Greece, will inform the Hellenic Government that mediation is now at an end, and that should Greece be so ill-advised as to reject the magnificent offers now made to her by the Porte, the consequences of the step must rest entirely with herself.

This Note will be backed up by strong representations from the foreign Ministers resident at Athens, who will make "a last appeal" to the Greek Government for moderation.

But Greece knows better.

The weekly mail service of steamers between this country and Newfoundland will be resumed on the 13th inst.

The news from Chio represents the destruction of life and property as even worse than was at first supposed. The number of persons killed is now put down at 4,000, and 40,000 more are reported to be without food or shelter—chiefly women and children.

Shocks of earthquake have also been felt at Zante, but no damage was caused.

Rumours are to hand that "an insurrection against the Portuguese Government" has broken out at Oporto, and that the insurgents have barricaded themselves in the theatre!

The floods at Seville have subsided somewhat, but the waters are still eight and three-quarter metres above the usual level. The Minister of Public works has gone to the scene of the inundation, taking with him a sum of 3,500 francs to relieve the immediate necessities as far as possible.

Wholesale butchery of magnificent deer is considered Royal sport in Germany, and this is how they do it. The keepers drive a district, and when the game has been driven to a central point, a cloth fence is drawn round the area, as many as a thousand acres being sometimes thus enclosed. And then the "sport" begins. Shooting-stands are erected at short intervals across the diameter of the circle, and without a chance for their lives, without receiving even a semblance of law, the poor brutes are mercilessly slaughtered by the hundred. Two days' shooting has been known to yield as many as 854 deer killed in this way.

Some severe things have been said about the "driving" system, which is becoming more and more common in this country; but it is to be hoped we have nothing to compare with cold-blooded massacre of this description.

California seems to grudge every other country her specialities. England, in the first place, is to lose her monopoly of plum puddings, for California has taken to growing citrons and preparing the fruit, and Californian publicists look hopefully forward to the time when California will have the seedless raisins and candied peel, as well as the sugar, flour, and suet—in short, every ingredient home produced, except some of the spices, for making a Christmas pudding.

In the next she is going to rival Dundee in the manufacture of marmalade, from her own oranges.

Moreover, California has created another valuable industry—that of the cultivation of pampas grass, so much used for decorative purposes. Three-quarters of an acre planted in pampas grass yielded, at 2½ cents. per head, 500 dols., and last year 10,000 heads of plumes of this grass were sold from one estate.

The same spirit of enterprise is adding another new element of California's prosperity—the introduction of ostriches and camels. Should the California experiment prove successful ostrich feathers will be sent East, and become by no means a small or unimportant article of trade.

The climate is adapted for camels, but it is doubtful whether they will be remunerative.

Carp farming is another novelty, and it promises to attain a remarkable development, especially in the Middle States, where the first experiments have resulted most auspiciously, and have excited general attention.

Oakland, California, has just built itself a masonic temple. It is described by all worthy masons as an honour to the craft and an ornament to the city. "City," we presume, is used in the American acception of the term. Oaklands is a suburb of San Francisco, with a great many trees and a very few houses.

First appearances are often deceptive. This old adage has had a very striking illustration in the case of a wild plant—a weed, as it is supposed—on the high lands of Louisiana. The farmers tried for years to exterminate it as a pest, but it has been discovered to yield a woody fibre closely resembling jute, though of a much finer quality. It is claimed that the process of preparation is very simple, and far less expensive than that of jute or ramie. The planters' name for it is the creole tea plant.

China is really going to have a railway at last, but, as everywhere, money has to be the first consideration. Hoo, the "well-known" Chinese banker, and Tso, the no less "celebrated" Chinese Mandarin, are going to meet to settle the terms.

Horse-breeding in South America is a profitable business. The climate is dry and the land low in price, so that the Arab—or what is a very good imitation of this most perfect of saddle horses—can be produced at a very small cost to the *ranchero*.

By the way, King Sancho has mounted his cavalry regiments upon asses. These patient and long-enduring animals carry more, eat less, and kick better than horses. They are intelligent and docile, and if a reverse should overtake King Sancho's troops no amount of spurring or whipping can persuade them to start for camp at a pace discreditable to a brave soldier.

An English lady who sat in the stalls on the first night of the *Tribut de Zamora*, and attracted much attention, was Mrs. Georgiana Weldon. A lady correspondent writes to us—"She was simply dressed in black, with a collar of old *point de Venise*, and a black *aumonière* set in silver. Her only ornament was a huge medal of merit, which stood out in bold relief against her sable robe."

News from the Country.

The Honourable A. Parker, son o that fine old sportsman, the Earl of Macclesfield, and himself a dashing sportsman of the young Oxford type, President of the Christ Church Cricket Club, &c., &c., is, we are happy to state, gradually recovering from his severe attack of typhoid fever.

Thirty farms are affected with the foot and mouth disease in the Hundred of Salford, 8 in Blackburn Hundred, and 9 in West Derby Hundred and others, making a total of 47 farm-houses affected. The Clerk of the Peace in Lancashire has received intimation that the disease has appeared on a farm near Bolton, and another near Stockport.

Some years ago a man in Southport, known to be otherwise wealthy, sold a prosperous business for a large amount, and retired with his two daughters to a small house of his own, where he lived with miserly penuriousness. He occasionally left home, presumably on business connected with his accumulated wealth; but neither his daughter nor his most intimate friends knew where his money was or how it was invested. Not long ago he died suddenly, and, when search was made for a will, no will was to be found. Still worse, no money was to be found, nor any deeds or documents of any kind; and all attempts to discover the whereabouts of his large fortune have so far been vain. His daughters were compelled to dispose of the furniture in order to pay the funeral expenses, and are now all but destitute.

It has been suggested that if the house were pulled

down, and the garden dug up, something would certainly be found; but no one has been courageous enough to adopt these suggestions.

Two schooners suspended in mid-air is a spectacle for the curious, if a grief to the owners, and it has just been witnessed near Glasgow. Two schooners attempted on Saturday to pass together through the East Coast Sea lock of the Caledonian Canal, but the lock proving too small, they became jammed, and the ebbing tide left them suspended in the way described. At the next tide they were filled with water and completely submerged. It is expected they will have to be broken up before through navigation can be resumed.

West Cowes is dissatisfied with its public buildings, and, accordingly, a large section of the inhabitants are agitating for a new Town Hall, public offices, and town quay, as the town has altogether grown out of the accommodation at present afforded. But another large section fear the expense, and economy has, for the time being, prevailed.

A curious difficulty has arisen out of the Tay-bridge disaster. A relief fund was promptly started after the calamity, and subscriptions flowed in freely, but it has now transpired that the railway company are meeting claims for compensation, and subscribers to the fund have been clamouring to have their money back. So far, the case presents no difficulty. A general meeting was held in Dundee the other day, and it was explained that after defraying all charges, it would be possible to return 13s. 4d. in the pound of all monies received; the total sum in hand amounting to something like £4,000.

Individual contributors will, of course, get their money back, but a great deal was raised by public entertainments, and in similar ways, and the question arises—what is to be done with it?

A case of considerable interest as affecting medical men and their patients was heard at Wimborne, near Gloucester, the other day. A man who had the misfortune to have his thigh broken called in a local practitioner, by whom it was set, but the man alleged that this was done in such an unskillful manner, and with such a neglect of proper appliances, that the limb was now shorter than its fellow, that he was still in consequence unable to attend to business, and that he had suffered great loss—for all which grievances he claimed at the local county court the substantial solatium of £200. No less than a dozen doctors were examined on both sides, whose opinions were pretty evenly balanced between the two parties, and the Judge in perplexity reserved his judgment until next sitting.

But when the doctors differ, who shall decide?

Mr. Ogden's disappearance from Yarmouth is still as great a mystery as ever. He has turned up at Sheffield, it is true—but why did he go away without leaving his reasons behind him? Was he, as chief constable, tracking some criminal? Or did he want to see what the local editors would say of him in their obituaries?

They have already confessed that "he bore a high character." So the evanishment has not been altogether fruitless.

An industrial exhibition is to be held in the Winter Gardens, Cheltenham, during Whitsun week, with the worthy Mayor, Mr. Skillicorne, as treasurer.

The military concert on Friday, given at the Assembly Rooms, was a great success. Jim Lillywhite has taken the Montpellier Gardens on a lease, and is going to do wonders with them.

The Tewkesbury Regatta is fixed for Ju'y 26.

Residence for the Oxford summer term will begin on the Friday and Saturday in Easter week, and Commem. is fixed for Wednesday, June 22, and Flower Show, in St. John's, on 21st. The following degree days have been fixed:—Saturday, April 9, being the last day of Hilary or Lent term; Wednesday, April 23, the commencement of Easter term; Thursday, May 5; Thursday, May 19; and Friday, June 3.

The rumours that the Prince and Princess of Wales were going to grace Commemoration with their presence are discredited, but it is not thought improbable that the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh may be present.

The election of a new Master for St. John's, Cambridge, is to take place on the 12th inst. It is supposed that the choice of the fellows will be between Dr. Parkinson, senior tutor of the college, and Mr. Bonney, who recently resigned his tutorship. Of course all but clergymen are disqualified for the Mastership. Had it not been for the dilatoriness of the Commissioners with the new rules, things might have worn a different aspect for non-clerical competitors.

Land and Water tells a curious story of an old country vicar of the sporting school. A marriage ceremony had been fixed, but it was a fine September morning, the clergyman loved his gun, and so, forgetful of the momentous knot he was to be the instrument of tying, he sauntered forth into the stubbles of his glebe. He had not been out long before he got a shot, but scarcely had he done so when he heard the well-known voice of the parish clerk shouting after him, "Sir! the young people be ready, and be at the church a-waiting." "Bless me!" said the old gentleman, "I forgot; I'll be there in a moment." He hastily, therefore, picked up the partridge he had shot, and, putting it in his pocket, hurried to the church. In the midst of the ceremony something was seen to be fluttering under his surplice, and in a moment, to the astonishment of everybody, out from its folds flew the partridge, for it had been more stunned than killed. "Oh dear! there goes that bird," involuntarily exclaimed the vicar. "It's all right, sir," replied the clerk; "she can't get out; and she's gone into the squire's pew."

A Leeds brickmaker found an original method of throwing off the matrimonial shackle. His wife became addicted to opium lately, and he, kind soul, instead of disturbing the place of the household with railings and reproaches, approached the difficulty in a most philosophical spirit. He even carried complaisance to the point of making his spouse a weekly allowance of her cherished drug; and, to carry marital tenderness to its utmost limits, purchased it for her himself.

It was a slow remedy, but sure. It took fifteen years, but at last success rewarded his patience, and the other day the woman died. The jury duly recorded the fact that she had died from opium-eating.

I don't hear that they condoled with the bereaved husband.

As an unusual circumstance, and especially with the severe weather of the present spring, it may be mentioned that woodcocks have been found nesting in Berkshire, and one nest was found on the 26th of last month which contained four eggs.

Other sections of the Yorkshire wool trade are taking

leaf out of the book of their Bradford rivals, and are about to present to Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales a number of beautiful woollen shawls, which are now being made by Messrs. Wrigley and Broadbent, of Delph, near Manchester. The wool has been carefully selected from the stock of Sir Tatton Sykes, Bart., by Mr. J. T. Foster, of Little Driffield.

I understand that Lord Carrington, the Chairman of the Central Chamber of Agriculture, will make the presentation on Her Royal Highness's return from St. Petersburg.

The lines of domestic servants in Lancashire have not fallen in pleasant places. But a few months ago a young woman was subjected to a monstrous indignity by her mistress, who charged her with immorality, and sent for a surgeon to confirm her suspicion. The girl has since endeavoured to seek redress in the law courts, but has failed. Now, it appears that amongst the grievances of a domestic servant is one that she is liable to be beaten whenever she displeases her mistress. To such treatment a girl of 15 years was subjected at Accrington yesterday, and so severe was the thrashing she received that she endeavoured to escape from her mistress by leaping out of a bedroom window. She fell upon the sharp points of some palisading, and one of her arms was frightfully lacerated. It is stated that the police are investigating the matter.

The Bishop of Manchester has arranged to address a large meeting of railway *employés* at Salford on Easter Wednesday.

A selection from Handel's Lenten oratorio, *The Passion*, will be given for the first time in Manchester at a special musical service in the Cathedral on Good Friday afternoon.

It was most unfortunate that just as William Jackson had inherited £20,000, by the death of his father, he should be compelled to defer spending the money for five years. The fact was, he had been sentenced to penal servitude at Cork Assizes for a series of jewel robberies.

News of Town.

Gossip of the Lobby.

The reading of the evidence taken before the Gloucester Election Commissioners, covers 1,020 pages of double columns, and most of it is filled with matter that is a disgrace to Gloucester.

Has it come to this that men should go about whispering that Messrs. Donald Currie, Pender and Samuel Laing, (all M.P.'s) should have been recommended to Her Majesty for -baronetcies?

Why, "by the public prints" we have already been informed that each of these gentlemen has already refused a Peerage, or been immensely diverted by the intelligence that he was to be offered one! No; let us see these gentlemen properly rewarded. Donald Currie would make a very fair duke—a self-made duke, of course; while Mr. Pender and Mr. S. Laing might, in good taste, be offered some German princesses and rooms in Hampton Court.

All three are north countrymen, Liberals, and supporters of Government—but otherwise respectable—and we commend them to Her Majesty's gracious notice as good men and true. The sword has often fallen on less worthy shoulders than those of these three good Scotchmen.

Sir William Muir, K.C.S.I., has been appointed to the office of Sir Robert Rede's Lecturer for the ensuing year. The stipend attached to the office is nine guineas; the duties are one lecture.

Sir William was at one time Lieut.-Governor of the N. W. Provinces in India, and is now on the India Council. As a Lieut.-Governor, he was cautious, but undoubtedly successful. On the Council he is one of its most hardworking members.

But he holds abominable ideas on the question of Candahar—so the *Daily Telegraph*, for instance, would say.

The occupation of Cyprus is the cause—so we learn for the first time from the *Pall Mall Gazette*, which is now taking rank as the evening organ of Socialism—of the French troubles in Tunis. Now, everybody knows, of course, that this is absurd, even though he may not say it.

But even suppose it were true, and France *were* to annex Tunis to Algeria—what then? Would it not be good for France, better for Algiers, and best of all for Tunis?

There is no parallel on any point between Algeria and India, and Afghanistan and Tunis, as every reader of the *Pall Mall* must have seen for himself; but even if there were—what then? Why only this, that France will never run away from its Candahar simply because it is threatened by its Russia, Italy.

None too soon the subject of the safety of theatres has been taken up by the House of Lords, but we are sorry to see that Lord Kenmare thinks that theatres are better provided than other public buildings with means of exit. His lordship is very much mistaken.

The Services.

"Running drill" is to be discontinued in the army, and "the balance step *without* gaining ground" is to be more rigidly practised.

A committee of officers and civilians will shortly assemble at the War Office to take into consideration the advisability or otherwise of doing away with the British bayonet. They will at the same time report upon the best means for getting soldiers under cover when they are in presence of the enemy.

No reason is officially given for these important changes.

Mr. Binnie, an officer of the Indian D.P.W.—intended to mean Department of Public Works but really meaning Department of Profligate Waste—has written to the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M.P., "and others" of Her Majesty's Government to tell them that Cooper's Hill is a mistake.

Fortunately for Mr. Binnie Colonel Chesney is not about just now.

But in the absence of the Dorking it may be as well to

point out to the author of the pamphlet before us that Cooper's Hill, which he objects to, does give—what open competition, which he advocates, does not give—*gentlemen* to the D.P.W. As a matter of fact, every department of the Indian service ought to go by patronage instead of by competition, if we are to administer India successfully—and first of all in the D.P.W.

Sharp men from the ranks are not the men to have the superintendence of sergeants and baboos, with enormous sums of money passing through their hands continually. It is more economical to have gentlemen from Cooper's Hill.

As if there was not enough of trash upon which schoolboys might squander their pocket money, the Admiralty are now about to offer four old ironclads by public auction.

We hope no decent urchin will be betrayed into extravagance by this unjustifiable temptation.

The election of officers and Council of the Institution of Naval Architects takes place to-day at noon.

Courts and Courtiers.

Her Majesty and Princess Beatrice left Windsor at 10.30 this morning for Osborne.

Her Majesty's visitors at Windsor Castle yesterday included Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, the Marquis of Lansdowne, and the Earl and Countess of Lathom, who had the honour of dining with Her Majesty.

The Prince of Wales and the Duke of Edinburgh also visited the Queen, remaining to luncheon.

Mr. Francis Clare Ford was also presented, and kissed hands on his appointment as Minister at Athens.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales held a levée at St. James's Palace by command of the Queen yesterday. Their Royal Highnesses the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, the Duke of Connaught, the Duke of Cambridge, and Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, were present, as also was Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar. The diplomatic and general circles were numerously attended. The Queen signified her pleasure that presentations at this levée should be considered as equivalent to presentations to herself.

The Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, and the Princess Mary Adelaide and children, accompanied by the Duke of Cambridge, went to see the Royal Panorama at Leicester-square yesterday.

Arrivals in town include the Duke of Westminster, Countess Grosvenor, Capt. the Hon. Charles and Lady Beatrix Cavendish, and Earl and Countess Longford. The Earl of Sefton is expected to arrive to-day.

Earl and Countess Fitzwilliam and the Ladies Fitzwilliam have left London for Rotherham.

It is stated that the Empress of Austria has taken Thomastown Castle, between Cashil and Tipperary, the residence of the late Count de Jarnac, for next year.

But it is evident the Empress of Austria cannot be next year in two places at once. She must be either at Kilkenny Castle, as stated, or at Thomastown Castle, as stated, or at neither, as stated. But it will all be settled next year, when the Empress of Austria comes back.

Countess Granville suffers from indisposition, which will prevent her receiving company this evening.

The Duke of Marlborough will, it is stated, take a yachting trip to the East during the Easter Recess, accompanied by Lord Randolph Churchill. The cruise will extend over five or six weeks, and the yacht will go as far as Constantinople.

The marriage of Lord Brook with Miss Maynard, stepdaughter to the Earl of Rosslyn, is to take place on April 30th, at Westminster Abbey.

Departures from Ireland for this country includes Lord Wallscourt; and among the arrivals are Count Moore, the Hon. R. Greville Nugent, and the Hon. Mrs. Massey Dawson.

Sir Philip de Malpas Egerton died yesterday morning at Albermarle-street. The deceased baronet was 75 years of age, and was, with the exception of one member, the oldest in the House of Commons.

During his forty years of Parliamentary life, Sir Philip had never spoken. He used to say it was his duty to his country to hold his tongue.

Mr. Severn's body will, it is said, be taken to Italy to be buried near the remains of his friend Keats, the poet.

Churches and Churchmen.

Unearthing of the remains of spurious martyrs is becoming a lucrative business just now. Leo XIII. having become aware that the sacrilegious traffic was being carried on under cover of the authority of the Cardinal-Vicar of Rome, to whom the authentication of such articles belongs, called his attention recently to this scandal, ordering him to institute a strict inquiry into the matter, and visit the simoniacal ecclesiastics with the utmost severity. The subject is now before the Congregation of Relics, and the Cardinal-Vicar has addressed a circular to all the Catholic Diocesan Bishops, Vicars-Apostolic, and Administrators throughout the world, intimating that no bodies have been taken out of the Catacombs for the last thirty years, and warning them against impostors. Their most lucrative field has been in America, whither have been shipped entire osteological specimens of what purported to be the remains of early Christian martyrs freshly dug out of the Catacombs at Rome.

Nine Dissenting ministers met yesterday at a social gathering in the neighbourhood of Hackney, and on comparing notes it was found that four out of the number had chosen the same text on the previous day for their sermons *apropos* to the death of Sir Charles Reed: "For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell on sleep."

York Convocation has been prorogued to the 26th inst.

Gossip of Town.

ILLNESS OF LORD BEACONSFIELD.

Lord Beaconsfield had so far recovered strength yesterday forenoon as to be able to take some interest in passing events, and when the morning bulletin was issued he desired to be allowed to see it. When visited by his physicians early in the afternoon, the illustrious patient was still in the same satisfactory condition, but later on there was a slight return of spasms. Notwithstanding this, his lordship took nourishment freely, slept at intervals, and on the whole exhibited a decided improvement. Indeed, so much was this the case, that the physicians yielded to the ardent wish of their patient to hold an interview with Lord Barrington. The night bulletin encouraged the hopes that had been originated by the earlier intelligence of the day, and at the time of the latest inquiries this morning the noble earl's condition continued to improve.

Public anxiety, however, is still unallayed, and the stream of royal, noble, and distinguished inquirers moves uninterruptedly in the direction of Curzon-street. Their Royal Highnesses the Duke of Cambridge, Prince Christian, and the Duchess of Teck, called early in the day, and the Prince of Wales followed immediately he was released from the duties imposed upon him by the Levée. Her Majesty, the Duchess of Cambridge, and Princess Frederica, took steps to keep themselves regularly informed of Lord Beaconsfield's condition, and the Prime Minister had a special messenger awaiting each bulletin.

Lord Rowton telegraphed in the evening that he had arrived at Monte Carlo with his sister, and that he expected to be in London to-morrow morning.

On and after Monday next the State apartments of Windsor Castle will be open to the public.

The fourteenth anniversary dinner in aid of the funds of the London General Porters' Benevolent Institution will be held on Friday night at the Albion, in Aldersgate-street, when the chair will be taken by Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P.

We advise our readers to give up wearing clothes.

At any rate, they ought first to find out where they are made. A case has just been made public of a tailor employed by "a good firm" being found making and repairing clothes in a room with one child lying ill with small-pox in it—and another lying dead from the same awful disease! It is very long indeed since we have read a more shocking disclosure.

Scarlet fever in milk, trichinæ in pork, arsenic in wall paper, typhus fever in drains—these and all the rest are bad, but small-pox from our clothes sent out to be repaired is a sickening terror.

"A grand bazaar," under such exceptional patronage as seldom falls to the lot of any fashionable gathering—unless it be one of Her Majesty's drawing-rooms—will be held in the Duke of Wellington's Riding School, Knightsbridge, on the 8th, 9th, and 10th of June. The object of the bazaar is to relieve St. John's Hospital (Leicester-square) from debt, and to assist in making it a truly "national" institution.

But this it may be almost said to be already. The list of patrons includes the Princess of Wales, and a King, ever so many Royal and Imperial Highnesses, an archbishop, and several dukes, while among the ladies who have specially promised their assistance are the Princess Malcolm Khan, the Duchesses of Beaufort, Hamilton, Marlborough, Montrose, and Wellington, four Marchionesses, twenty-four Countesses, eight Viscountesses, and a hundred other ladies of title and distinction.

Individually, from the long list of distinguished names of commoners we may mention Sir Michael Costa, Sir Julius Benedict, Col. Ewart and the officers of the 2nd Life Guards, Sir John Bennett, Major-General Burnaby, M.P., Messrs. S. B. Bancroft, Wilson Barrett, Wilkie Collins, Charles Hallé, Henry Irving, Charles Reade, Sims Reeves, W. H. Russell, Arthur Sullivan, J. Alma Tadema, and J. L. Toole. The special musical arrangements for each day are under the direction of Mr. Alfred Gilbert, who generously places his services at the disposal of the organisers of the bazaar.

Contributions of money will be received by the London and County Banking Company (Limited), at its head office, 21, Lombard-street, E.C., and all its branches in the metropolis and throughout England.

Contributions of money or work will be gratefully received by the Right Hon. W. N. Massey, M.P. (Chairman of the Board of Management), 71, Chester-square, S.W.; by Major Mercier (treasurer), 13B, High-road, Knightsbridge, S.W.; by Mrs. Freeland (honorary secretary to the bazaar), 12, Ovington-gardens, South Kensington, S.W.

We wish Major Vincent Mercier and his colleagues all the success they have merited.

SPIRITS ON TRIAL.

(BY OUR OWN GOSSIP.)

This case of spirits was broached yesterday at the public bar of Old Bailey.

Branded with the Crown mark and described as "rum" the case drew a curious crowd together to taste dock samples of whatever offered. It was known to be of a certain medium (one Fletcher) quality.

The Old Bailey has lost some of its age and a little of its grime, but it is not a cheerful thoroughfare in an east wind on an early April morning. Newgate fronts us grey and grim, and the wind whistles a doubtful welcome through the jangling fetters that dangle ominously over the spiked wicket.

Perhaps the place recalls to one shameful memories of frightful sums given for a window years ago to watch some wretch swing across the Dark River, just as one pays to—say for a stall to see Shakespeare or some equally inoffensive gentleman murdered in the Strand.

Mr. Justice Hawkins would have been a popular judge among us in those days.

But the young men who jousted in Old Bailey front windows on execution mornings are now fathers of families, deacons, and even aldermen; and some may be angels in heaven.

Where sportive youth sat up all the previous night a Sunday School Union raises its faultless front in ornate masonry and coloured picture-books of an exalted kind. But things go on very much the same at the Court over the way.

Jonathan Wild was, perhaps, not such a consummate scoundrel as Arthur Orton. The Cato-street Conspirators were no darker villains than their Fenian successors. Jack Sheppard and Greenacre have had their recent counterparts and the past is the present at Old Bailey every day.

The Cock-lane Ghost, nearly a century and a-half old, is thrown into a very commonplace shade indeed by a speaking spirit, who reveals herself to her daughter through a magnetic doctor, and wills away her late jewellery and property to a magnetic doctor's magnetic wife.

"Who came to me from Spirit Land,
And placed my jewels in Fletcher's hand,
My lace and cash at his command?
My mother!"

One of the counts in the long indictment, which covers a sheet or two of crackling parchment, runs :—"And the jurors aforesaid, upon their oath aforesaid, do further present that the said Susan Willis Fletcher, John William Fletcher, and Francis Morton, unlawfully did pretend (to wit to the said Juliet Anne Theodora Heurtley Hart-Davies), to exercise and use divers kind of witchcraft, sorcery, enchantment, and conjuration, against the form of the statute in such case made and provided, and against the peace of our said Lady the Queen, her crown, and dignity."

The dignity of our said Lady the Queen is nobly upheld in Old Bailey.

The Court itself is a stuffy, dingy, awkward apartment, broken up into pens, which are labelled like stalls at a prize show. Jury under a set of windows on one side, witnesses and reporters under another set of windows on the other side.

Ranged between, along the wall, five raised desks on a narrow platform, and over one of them an oak-grained canopy with the Royal arms in plaster of Paris toppling from the front, and a sword resting at the back. This is the Bench. Facing it is a raised roomy space partitioned off, so that half only of the occupants are seen. This is the Dock.

The clock struck ten to a buzz. Everybody rose, and Justice, personified in several startling gentlemen, filed in through a red curtain.

First the Judge, stern and stiff, in ermine and black and scarlet, bringing a bouquet and a bad cold. Then a Vast gentleman, of portentous girth and great age, draped in a purple robe and furs and gold chain of great price, bearing also a bouquet, and a stick with which he heavily hobbled. Then a younger and smaller edition of the same sort of thing, also bearing a bouquet. Then a florid young gentleman, with his polished hair well brushed back, draped in blue and furs and gold chain, with pretty lace ruffles hovering round his white-gloved hands in cloudy grace, also bearing a bouquet.

How many long weary years may pass before some of the hapless ones who stand in the facing dock and hear their sentence shall look on such flowers again?

When somebody had said something, somebody else broke the stillness by shouting "Silence!" Then everybody, including the bouquets which rested on each desk, sat down, the Judge at the extreme right, and the Vast gentleman under the oak-grained canopy.

Mr. Justice Hawkins, coughing, took a "drop." It is not the first time by many he has given one.

Then Mr. Montagu Williams, in his not altogether pleasing tones, opened the not altogether pleasing case. Occasionally he was angry. Sometimes he was shocked. Once or twice he laughed satirically, and then the Court guffawed.

The Vast judicial gentleman enjoyed everything amazingly until one o'clock, when he left, apparently to enjoy his lunch. He returned to the canopy no more. The young judicial gentleman in ruffles, at about the same hour, sent out for an evening newspaper, and burying his florid face in his white gloves, supported his elbows on the judicial bench, and placidly chewed the news.

The Judge pored over his notes, chivvied his troublesome glasses, and later in the day admonished the witness with much relish, while the side light threw a cold glitter into his grey eye.

Prisoner and dupe face to face again, but for the first time here.

The woman seated in the dock, in her furs and velvet, rests in an attitude of studied ease. Her well-gloved hands arrange the pen or paper now and again on the facing ledge, and once or twice she leans over and whispers to her attorney. With dark strong eyes, full features, and swarthy complexion, Mrs. Fletcher would pass for what is called "a fine woman."

Her opponent is *petite* and fair, with a wealth of gold hair braided closely to her head, and in short curls round the face. It is a face you do not forget.

The prisoner, physically and mentally, looks strong enough to crush a dozen such women. She changed her position as Mrs. Davies entered the witness-box, and kept her eye fixed upon the witness, as though she might influence her even there.

Hour after hour passed with Mrs. Davies seated in the witness-box, answering question of judge and counsel, quite at ease, and with much refinement and some sweetness of voice.

The time went slowly and wearily by as Mr. Williams built up his case. There was no excitement and little incident.

The hour for adjournment came at last, and every one made a rush for the sunlight which had trickled in all day, and which shone still through the Court windows, as Mr. Fletcher may have noticed, upon the grey walls of Newgate.

Lord Carington presided at a council meeting of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture which was held yesterday at the rooms of the Society of Arts. The proceedings were marked by common sense throughout, the Council eventually, after passing a vote in favour of agricultural endowments, approving the exemption (by Sir Henry Holland's Bill) of hired machinery from distraint, and the limitation of the landlord's power to distrain for rent to twelve months' rent only.

It is manifestly unjust to the machine owner, generally speaking, to make his property seizable by reason of the farmer's default in rent. It is equally apparent that short credit in rent is as sound a principle as short credit in anything else.

Mormons have been declared ineligible as jurymen in bigamy cases.

We could understand this, if Mormons had previously been declared bigamists themselves.

Heath fires of extraordinary proportions have been desolating the neighbourhood of Bournemouth since Sunday, several hundred acres being charred, and a cottage situated on the heath burned to a cinder. As the country was full of warrens, it is probable that a good deal of roast rabbit has been wasted.

Talking of fires reminds me that Bishop Colenso once told me he was nearly caught and burnt up by a grass fire in Natal. For a minute or so, said the grand old prelate,

"It was touch and go with me whether I got to the fence in time or not."

A case that illustrates the difficulty of interpreting the Wild Birds' Protection Act has just come before the London magistrates. A poulterer was summoned for exposing wood pigeons for sale during close time, but defendant appearing to have been ignorant, the summons was dismissed, as wood pigeons are "unscheduled."

But "unscheduled" birds may be killed during close time by landowners or occupiers, or by persons authorised by them, and if the defendant in this case had set up in defence that he had obtained his birds from such persons, what would have been his legal position?

Probably there never was in the commercial history of this country a more interesting and valuable return than is now being prepared by the Board of Trade of bills of sale registered in the United Kingdom. This document, properly studied, will afford the means of tracing the progress of trade with unerring accuracy. The total number of Bills of Sale registered during last year was 55,861, showing an enormous increase over the five previous years. A large percentage of the increase comes from distress in the agricultural districts.

The secret is out at last. No wonder that our poulterers can keep their shops crowded with game in spite of a close season. Why, it is only the other day that a single firm in St. Louis filed an order for the London market for 1,600 dozens of quail, 1,700 dozens of prairie chickens, and 700 dozens of wild turkeys.

"Loathly rubbish" is the phrase by which the *St. James's Gazette* characterises the messages sent home by the so-called "special" correspondents of the *Daily News*. There is only one correspondent now at the front who would send home this "loathly rubbish," and that is Aylward, the Boer.

Aylward is a newspaper man, and thinks well of the *Daily News*. But like an astute man he tried first to use the *Daily Telegraph*, for it was evident to him that Boer sentiments would come with far greater force from the "patriotic" journal than from the "Perish-Africa" one. But the *Daily Telegraph* discovered the man, and promptly put an extinguisher upon his "loathly rubbish."

Gardeners are still talking of the dispersion of the magnificent collections of orchids formed by Mr. John Day at Tottenham. Important as have been many of the collections that have passed under the hammer during the last two decades, not one, regarded as a whole, could for a moment be compared with it. In extent this collection had long been without an equal in private gardens; whilst as regards the immense number of specimen plants, richness in varietal forms, and exuberance of health, it is described by the *Gardener's Magazine* as "perfectly unique."

The organisation scheme for the new Royal University of Ireland was laid on the table of both Houses of Parliament yesterday.

"Light, More Light!"—What a curious quality has that electric light, that it should be not only bright itself, but the cause of brightness in others! Admirable arrangements made with it in the City. During all the gloom of November, the dulness of December, the darkness of January, Londoners left to the tender mercies of the gas companies. From three to six p.m. daily a little feeble illumination, trickling from the shabbiest gas lamps in Her Majesty's dominion—exception, however, to be made for the really good blaze of light at one or two central points. So matters went on through the dark season.

But now, when we have passed the equinox, when the city is illuminated by natural light, for which vestries will not have to pay, over which they have no control; when every business man who works in it by day has plenty of daylight to leave it and get home before dinner times, the wise authorities arrange with the electric companies, and from ten till midnight all the streets, thoroughfares, and public buildings will be ablaze for the benefit of a few cabmen, a few policemen, and a few omnibus horses and their drivers and their conductors.

In the meantime, in the thoroughfares leading to the Houses of Parliament, where business hours are chiefly after nightfall, the gas has suddenly brightened up, and Parliament-street is nearly as well lit as a second-rate French town. How long will this pleasant state of things last? Two years ago, when the gas scare commenced, Regent-street was electrified at top and bottom. The Polytechnic began it, and the Sterescopic Company continued it. At once the gas in Lower Regent-street broke out into plethoric Argand burners and costly four-sided lanterns. Nothing could be more brilliant or more public-spirited. Regent-street was nearly as bright as Rouen. But one day all the Argand lights disappeared, and fish-tail burners restored the thoroughfare to its accustomed gloom. There seems to be some strange sympathy between the eagerness of gas and the vigorous exertions of electricity.

At the Arts Club.

Messrs. Gilbert and Sullivan's æsthetic opera will most likely be played at the Opera Comique for the first time on the 23rd of April.

Mdlle. Schneider, so long the acknowledged queen of opera bouffe, is going to sell her diamonds—not at her own house, but under the hammer at the Hotel Drouot, that final goal of all famous actresses' trinkets, and articles of luxury.

The collection is large and valuable, and excites much interest. It reminds one that this is the second time that this lady has parted with her jewels.

Some eighteen years ago a sympathising vaudevillist introduced for her a few lines into a song at the Palais Royal, in which she alluded to her recent bereavement, giving at the same time a rather broad hint that she was ready for more presents from male admirers. The audience unfortunately, thought this in bad taste, and hissed unmercifully.

Mdlle. Marianne Viardot, youngest daughter of Mdme. Viardot Garcia, the famous *cantatrice*, was married in Paris yesterday to M. Alphonse Duvernoy, a young composer whose setting of Shakespeare's *Tempest* has won for him the coveted prize of the City of Paris.

At a meeting of the Dilettante Circle, last night, one of the most charming reunions took place which have been held within this most exclusive club.

Two pieces—a farce, and a pretty little one-act comedy of the Robertsonian type, entitled *Withered Leaves*—were acted, after their own refreshing fashion, by a company of amateurs, under the direction of Mr. Louis Saunders.

Madame Oppenheim, who speaks with a slight foreign accent, was dressed in white, and looked extremely interesting. Miss Rose Norreys, who was cast for the heroine, acted like an experienced professional.

Mr. "Rugby Chambers" assumed the character of an old gentleman, and—by the way, why does not "his Lordship" act under his own name? There is nothing to be ashamed of in taking a part in an amateur theatrical representation—is there?

The second conversazione of the Society for the Encouragement of Fine Arts will be held to-morrow evening at 9, Conduit-street.

A marble bust of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, commissioned by one of the native princes of India, is now completed and ready to be sent out. His Royal Highness is represented in the dress of a field-marshal, with the collar and star of India.

Sir Henry Cole, who has been elected permanent chairman of the Congress on Domestic Economy, will preside to-day at the adjourned meeting of the congress, to be held at the rooms of the Society of Arts, in John-street, Adelphi.

In one of the most busy and dirty parts of Manchester, the Corporation have opened an exhibition of pictures *pro bono publico*. Amongst the various pictures exhibited are Mr. Watts's "Love and Death," and Miss Thompson's "Quartre Bras."

The Spring Exhibition of Paintings at Southport does credit to the enterprise of the Corporation of that pleasant Lancashire watering-place.

Sir Frederick Leighton has not disdained to send a contribution to the show, and Mr. Ansdell, Mr. Armitage, Mr. Calderon, Mr. Prinsep, Mr. McCallum, and others are characteristically represented.

The following extract from a New York paper will give our readers an insight as to the American idea of how Italian operas might be Wagnerized:—"But if we *must* have *La Sonnambula* and *Norma* and the *Puritani*, &c., why not subject them to the same treatment that Mozart and Franz have applied to Handel's scores of the *Messiah* and *L'Allegro*. *Re-orchestrate them!* Let Colonel Mapleson choose between Richard Wagner, Arrigo Boito, and Guiseppe Verdi, and give one of them the job, *carte blanche*. We incline to Wagner; we think *Tutto e sciolto*, with his 'Additional Accompaniments' a figure for the oboes, bassoons, and clarionets running counter to the melody in the beginning, and then working up to a grand crash *fortissimo* with three trombones, three tympani, bass yuba euphonium, and cymbals on the great burst after '*Ah, perche non poss' odiarti,*' would be an improvement on the 'huge guitar' which Bellini makes his orchestra. It would, moreover, give the soprano and tenor something to do other than standing and warbling mellifluously at the audience. It might bother Arditi some: but *n'importe*."

A fire such as that at Lord Robartes' seat, near Bodmin, seems always something more than a private misfortune. The old family plate, the heir-looms, and many works of are were destroyed, to say nothing of the fine old house, in spite of all that the fire brigade of the 35th could do to check the flames.

Lord and Lady Robartes had that morning left Lanhydrock House to pay a visit to a friend.

In the City.

Mr. Gladstone's Budget provides for reducing the debt by £60,000,000 on the next 25 years. The United States have diminished theirs by 900,000,000 dollars, say 200 millions dating since 1866. A properly applied sinking fund of only ½ per cent., would redeem £122,000,000 in a quarter of a century, and the annual charge for the debt might be lowered to £27,000,000.

There has been a good deal of fluctuation in the price of North Eastern Railway stocks of late, and as they have moved up and down with the price of pig iron, as reported in the market, it is evident that there is a misunderstanding as to the sliding scale arrangement. From an authoritative source, I may say that the carriage of materials for iron manufacture, rise and fall with the price of iron, but it is not the market rate, but the *realised* price—the rate the makers receive—that determines the change. These realised rates are ascertained every three months only.

The traffic receipts of the Great Western Railroad of Canada, published yesterday (Monday), for the week ending 1st April, show an increase of £3,400, making the aggregate increase for nine weeks £16,000. In view of the satisfactory traffic, and in anticipation of the meeting to be held on the 26th instant, when it is expected the vexed question of amalgamation with the Grand Trunk Railway will be exhaustively discussed, the shares have been extensively bought, and a further advance is still probable.

Brighton and South-Eastern Railway receipts still fall off, but some mineral lines show a healthier aspect.

Railroad enterprise is universally developing. Contracts are signed and in treaty for the laying of some thousand or more miles in Brazil and Mexico. Servia is to be opened up. India, Australia, and almost every country are extending their systems, while the United States will leave history far in the rear. This year some 7,000 miles will be laid there, and for the whole world the estimate is about double. Every week will probably find Yankee loans offered here. There is one for £2,000,000 and another for £331,500 now in our market. At this rate the gold drain may occasion us some trouble in the future, especially if other large sums are sunk in doubtful mining enterprises.

New Zealand for ever—as a borrower. Fresh loans are on the *tapis*; yet investors have scarcely cause for self-gratulation in the commercial prosperity of that Colony. Imports last year were £6,162,011, whereas in 1863 and 1864 respectively they exceeded seven millions. Exports again are no higher than in 1877, and since 1873 only show a bare 13 per cent. improvement. That the figures do not evince an actual decline is simply due to the better price of wool. Meanwhile population has doubled, expenditure nearly, and public indebtedness more than trebled in the last decade. Nice country to increase its debt.

On June 30th next some £38,000,000 six per cent. United States Bonds mature. About one-third will be redeemed out of the revenue, a small per centage by means of temporary loans, while nearly £23,000,000 will be cancelled by issuing 4 per cent. bonds, at say 115.

Hungarian Gold Rentes are higher than at any previous time.

The Chillington Iron Company has had another bad year, losing no less than £3,239. In 1876 the debit balance

was £7,501; in 1877, £17,206; in 1878, £21,278; in 1879, £27,985, and this year raises the loss to £36,274. No dividend has been paid for years.

Beer and Bier; there seems a strong connection between them, does there not? Accordingly, we find Laager gone to the bourne from which no company returns.

Date Coffee shares have been somewhat erratic of late, and appear to be quoted accordingly. But a very short time since they touched 36, and afterwards fell straight to 14, and were last quoted at 24 and 25.

The latest scheme in connection with these shares has been a division of the ordinary £5 shares into five shares of £1 each, and the price of these latter were quoted yesterday 4 to 5 (or equal to three to four premium).

Shares which fluctuate so violently are not, as a rule, considered a safe investment, but if every one goes on making money, why——

GUINEA PIGS IN THE CITY.

You may possibly imagine, gentle reader, that—seeing so many Limited Liability Companies recently advertised—the formation of a new undertaking is an easy one. But if so, I can assure you you are greatly mistaken.

In the first place, some one must be found who has the "right" to dispose of the concession, patent, lease, or freehold of a wonderful property, or discovery, which has only just been "discovered," or has "for years languished for the want of sufficient capital" to render it of untold value to those who may hereafter become directly or indirectly connected with it.

This indispensable individual having been brought to the front, a "Promoter or Syndicate of Promoters" has to be found, who agree to take the matter up, and for a consideration—generally a very large one—undertake to find Bankers, Solicitors, Directors, Secretary, and the necessary funds to "bring the matter before the public"—*i.e.*, to advertise the concern.

There is little difficulty about finding Bankers and Solicitors. As for the Secretary, some deserving or undeserving young man, with a little ready cash, is forthcoming, who agrees to put all his available capital into the proposed company, on the condition that he receives the appointment of "Secretary and Treasurer" at a salary varying—according to the capital and importance of the concern—from £200 to £600 per annum. If the new company turn out a success, this deserving, or undeserving, young man prospers, and is probably placed in a position to propose to the only girl he ever loved; if it goes to smash, he is ruined and swears against companies and company-mongers ever after.

Then comes the "Chairman and Board of Directors," or, as they are termed in City circles, Guinea Pigs, for the reason that they attend "Board Meetings" as frequently as possible, and briefly discuss matters connected with the interests of the shareholders, on which they are generally more or less ignorant. For the trouble and time thus spent, the secretary hands them at the close of each meeting one, or possibly two, guineas, neatly rolled up in white paper—hence the term Guinea Pig.

As the "Promoters" are fully aware, the most important point is to start with a strong "Board of Directors"—men whose names will inspire confidence in hesitating and timorous investors. To secure "desirable" names for this purpose requires consideration, expenditure, and tact. But "Promoters" are usually quite equal to all difficulties of this nature that may present themselves.

Guinea Pigs may be had from almost all grades of society—from the impecunious or enterprising nobleman, whose ancestors arrived with William the Conqueror, to the industrious and avaricious tradesman, who may have the good fortune to be lord of all he surveys from behind the counter of his small shop in some back thoroughfare.

The most desirable class of Guinea Pig is the prominent and successful City merchant, but he is generally "expensive" and wily, and his time is too precious to be given for the guinea or two which the embarrassed nobleman, seedy half-pay officer, briefless barrister, or speculative clergyman pockets with appreciation.

A guinea or two per week does not appear much in the way of income, but, as I pointed out yesterday, many of the Guinea Pigs are really "Professional Directors," who have seats on a number of Boards, and pocket a very nice little addition to their incomes for a very small amount of time and trouble.

There is another pull which the Guinea Pig has, or supposes he has, over the "outside" investor. He imagines he knows exactly the "standing" of the concern over whose interests he is supposed to keep an ever watchful eye, and by this means he fancies he is in a position to speculate to advantage in its shares. In this, however, he is generally mistaken. Some little Guinea Pigs go to the market and get bread-and-butter, but the majority of those who go to the Stock Exchange get none.

I hope to give a little very practical experience of Guinea Pigs to-morrow; but in the meantime, I wish to assure you, gentle reader, that the sketchy paragraphs I have just written do not in any way refer to the directors of the honest and legitimate companies that *you* or your personal friends may be connected with. They merely refer to "Boards" composed of men whom you despise and personally hate, and to limited liability companies, the shares of which are held entirely by people who are complete strangers to you.

The Day's Amusements.

Gibbon wrote, "Let us read with method, and propose to ourselves an end to which our studies may point. The use of reading is to aid us in thinking," but apply this to the 'Varsity crews, and the more we read about them the less must we think, otherwise we shall find ourselves puzzled indeed. As a few more hours will tell "who's who," those of us who are not financially interested in the event can afford to wait, but to those who have the "pieces on," the time must hang heavy indeed. In trying to arrive at a conclusive opinion as to the result, I have to surmount untold obstacles. First I am informed in nearly every quarter, both by those who should know and those who cannot comprehend, that Oxford must win; next, dark blue is my colour; and further, "favourites always win" (*vide* Mother Shipton). In spite, however, of these foreshadowings, after many personal observations of the style and go of both crews, I am conscientiously going to plump for CAMBRIDGE. Do not fancy that I rely on any accident happening to let them win. Nothing of the sort. Although I believe it will be a hardfought battle, there is no mistake, in my mind (despite, too, of all opposition), that Cambridge have the requisite "bit in hand" to land them first past the judge.

Betting, however, yesterday, 6 to 4 on Oxford.

The Inter-'Varsity Sports will take place at Lillie Bridge to-morrow, and a good deal of interest has centred in the result. The competitors for the respective Universities will be the same as have appeared in THE CUCKOO. It may prove a guide in judging the merits of the contestants if I give the best performances under each heading that have been done this season. Putting the weight, 36ft. 4in., Oxford; 100yds. race, time, 10 2-5ths sec., Oxford; High jump, 5ft. 6in., Oxford; Hurdle race, time, 16 3-5ths secs., tie; Throwing the hammer, 121ft. 8in., Oxford; Quarter mile, time, 50 3-5ths secs., Cambridge; One mile, time, 4 min. 32 2-5ths secs., Oxford; Long jump, 21ft. 10¼in., Oxford; Three miles, time, 15 min. 15 secs., Oxford. This sort of revisioning is not wholly infallible, but must be taken as a budget of facts almost sufficient to convince anybody that Oxford will bear the palm.

The races for the London Athletic Club Challenge Cups take place at Stamford Bridge on the 30th inst. The following are the entries: 100 yds., M. Shearman (holder), J M. Cowie, C. Y. Bedford, and H. M. Massey; 880 yds., J. D. Sadler (holder), H. E. Tomkins, W. Brass, jun., S. H. Baker, F. Chattaway, S. K. Holman, and C. Clarke: 10 miles, P. H. Stenning (holder) and J. A. Voelcker; 3 miles, walking, G. P. Beckley (holder), J. A. Squires, and R. Coombes.

Tewkesbury Regatta is fixed for July 28, when the West of England Challenge Vase, value £120, and presentation cups of the value of 30 guineas will be rowed for.

The two Transatlantic scullers, Hosmer and Smith, are likely to visit England again in the summer.

The Royal Portsmouth Corinthian Yacht Club have taken possession of their new premises, and a commemoration dinner took place on Saturday at the Clarence Esplanade Pier, with Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar in the chair.

After the removal of the cloth, it was stated that a long list of valuable prizes would shortly be announced. The club already numbers over two hundred members, and its permanent success is assured.

Œnone justified my tip by winning Earl Spencer's Plate at Northampton yesterday. For the Stakes to-day I must substitute Commandant for the Star to supply, with my previous named horse, The Schoolboy, the winner.

Sir George Chetwynd had his lucky cap on yesterday, as, besides winning with Œnone, he pulled off the Althorp Park Stakes at Northampton.

Races will be held at Geneva early in July, this being quite an innovation as far as Switzerland is concerned.

The French Minister of War has given permission to the French Trotting Society to hold a meeting at Vincennes on Saturday next.

A special meeting of the members of the North Durham Hunt was held on Monday at the County Hotel, Durham. The High Sheriff of the county (Mr. M. Hearney) presided, and there was a good attendance. The Hon. Secretary (Mr. N. W. Apperley) stated that owing to a falling off in the subscriptions, the master of the hunt (Mr. A. L. Maynard) was something like £500 out of pocket. Mr. Maynard, however, was willing to continue the mastership of the hunt provided the members would guarantee him a sum of £1,200 for the incoming season, £600 to be paid in August and £600 on the 1st of January next year. Unless these conditions were complied with, Mr. Maynard would feel obliged to give up the mastership and sell the hounds and horses. Mr. Lindsay Wood observed that they were only in a deficiency of about £100, and he thought that sum could easily be made up. Subsequently a committee was appointed to ascertain what further subscriptions could be obtained in order to enable Mr. Maynard to carry on the hunt.

Atkinson, who has hunted the Linlithgow Hounds, in the Lothians, for twenty-one years, has resigned.

On Monday the Duke of Buccleuch's hounds met at Blakelaw, near Kelso, where a large field assembled, including the Earl of Dalkeith, Lord Eskdale, Mr. Elliot of Clifton, Mr. Gray of Milfield, Miss Gray, Colonel Niggs of Bonjedward, Mr. John Scott of Sinton, Mr. and Miss Scott of Pinnaclehill, Mr. Pott of Knowesouth, Mr. Robertson of Hoebridge, Mr. Pope, Adelaide, South Australia; Mr. Scott, New South Wales; and Mr. Landell. The first cover was drawn blank, but the Blackhill produced a fine fox, which gave the field a good spin to Lurdenlaw, where he was lost in the garden. From Lurdenlaw the company proceeded to Hoselaw, where a fox was found which gave one of the fastest runs the hounds have had this season. For a short time reynard was lost, but was again found, and, after a hard chase, killed in the open. The run was at a hard pace over some stiff hilly country, and at the finish both horses and riders were exhausted.

Lord Londesborough will not this year contribute his usual quota to the Scarborough Cricket Carnival, but it is, I understand, likely to be arranged that Sir C. Legard, Bart., and Sir Harcourt Johnstone, Bart., shall share the honours of the week between them.

The Norfolk County Cricket Club is established, and matches have been arranged against M.C.C. and Ground, Lincolnshire, Bedfordshire, and also a Suffolk eleven. Hallsall has been engaged as bowler to the county.

The final tie for the Scottish Football Cup will be played over again at Glasgow next Saturday.

The shooting match which was to have been resumed at Liverpool yesterday between Carver and Scott, will have to be postponed, in consequence of an accident which happened to the latter on Sunday. He was thrown out of a dog-cart, straining his arm severely.

The open Croquet Championship meeting will take place at Wimbledon on June 21, while the Open Handicap is fixed for August 2 at the same place.

A New York lunatic named Griswin is going to try and beat record in the fasting line, and is about to commence to out-Tanner Tanner.

At the Royal Theatre, in Madrid, a few days ago, the first representation in that city of Wagner's *Lohengrin* was given, and the opera met with great success. The first act of the Swan legend, however, was received by a crowded audience somewhat coldly; but as the opera progressed, the enthusiasm of the assembled throng was intense, and the principal performer was called ten times before the curtain. That the present generation of Spaniards are showing some activity no one can deny.

Cuckoo Notes.

DOUBLE OR QUITS?

Scene—Fleet-street: door of Anderton's Hotel. *(Midnight. Hansom cab discovered pulling up and fare alighting.)*

FARE: How much?

DRIVER *(aside)*: He looks a green 'n; I'll charge him stiff. *(To the fare)*: Five shillings, sir.

FARE: Only five shillings all the way from Charing-cross, and so late at night, too! Cabby, you must be making some mistake.

DRIVER: No, sir. I likes to be reasonable when I meets a gen'l'man. And I knowed you was one, sir, when yer 'ailed me.

FARE: Well, get down, cabby, and have a little drop to warm you; you need something this sort of weather.

DRIVER: Thank 'ee, sir. I just will. We *does* need summat to warm us, I can tell yer, sir. *(Cabby alights.)*

FARE: Well, now, I will tell you what I will do with you, cabby. You seem a decent fellow, and I'm likely to be a good customer to you. I'll just race you to the next lamp-post whether I pay you double or quits, and I'll give you ten yards start.

DRIVER: Right, sir. You is wot I calls a good sort.

(Both take up their positions, and the fare cries "Go," and cabby starts off at the top of his speed, and never once looks round till he reaches the next lamp-post, and when he does he finds that his fare also has raced as fast as ever he could—in the opposite direction!)

DRIVER (five minutes later): Well, I *am* blowed!—*(and he was, for he hadn't even enough breath to call "Police!")*

The "Boston stare" is again coming into fashion. It is easy when you know how, and is said to be very effective in a hotel dining-room or in an omnibus. Just deaden the eyes until they resemble those of a dead mackerel, and put on the expression of a hardened despot. Some people are born with it.

If a telegram from the highest lady in the land to a nobleman in attendance upon one of the Queen's most illustrious subjects, upon the matter of the latter's illness, is not proof against being delivered at the wrong house, and against being opened by the wrong person, have we inferior mortals any right to complain of the youthful telegraphic messenger making the many mistakes he does?

But yet another question: The wrong person having opened and read a telegram not addressed to him, ought he not at least to have kept his own counsel, and not to have purveyed the contents? or was he so flabbergasted at the Queenly condescension that he thought it part of his duty as a loyal subject to make it known.

According to a correspondent, the late Emperor of Russia was haunted by the fear of assassination even in this country. "I remember being present," he says, "at the Arbitration case—Sawyer *v.* Crystal Palace Company—in 1876, when one of the chief English detectives was cross-examined in the interests of the plaintiff, to prove his loss in the consumption of refreshments, owing to the Emperor's short stay at the Palace. The detective stated that the tour of inspection was not cut short by the directors, but by the Emperor's own orders to 'hurry on, hurry on,' which he frequently exclaimed in the most nervous and anxious manner.'

A young French gentleman advertises as follows:—"A young man of twenty-seven, who is about to marry, would be happy to meet a man of experience who would be able to dissuade him from taking so desperate a resolution."

Our Delirious Contributor thinks the following of sufficient interest for publication, even though not, as he calls it, "first hand":—

"A duel was lately fought in Texas by Alexander Shott and John S. Nott. Nott was shot and Shott was not. In this case it is better to be Shott than Nott. There was a rumour that Nott was not shot, and Shott avows that he shot Nott, which proves either that the shot Shott shot at Nott was not shot, or that Nott was shot notwithstanding. Circumstantial evidence is not always good. It may be made to appear on trial that the shot Shott shot shot Nott, or, as accidents with firearms are frequent, it may be possible that the shot Shott shot shot Shott himself, when the whole affair would resolve itself into its original elements, and Shott would be shot, and Nott would be not. We think, however, that the shot Shott shot shot not Shott, but Nott. Anyway, it is hard to tell who *was* shot."

Our Portsmouth Correspondent writes to say:—"You are thoroughly appreciated here, both by the public and by the local press. The latter has of late scintillated mirthfully now and again, but there is no mistaking the cuckoo's notes."

Says Josh Billings:—"Sum people marry becase they think wimmin will be scarce next year, and live to wonder how the stock holds out. Sum marry to get rid of themselves, and discover that the game was one that two can play at and neither win. Sum marry for love, without a cent in their pocket, nor a friend in the world, nor a drop of pedigree. This looks desperate, but it is the strength of the game. Sum marry in haste and then sit down and think it carfully over. Sum think it carfully over fust, and then sit down and don't marry.

A gentleman suffering from sleeplessness at night had been placed by his friends in a private asylum, on the plea of giving him more rest and quiet than could be secured in his own home. He occupied at night what was called a "seclusion-room," with raving maniacs in similar rooms, on each side, only separated from them by a thin wooden partition! The patient's entreaties to be removed to another asylum were, after nine months, complied with, but here they designated him "a sane patient, and therefore the most difficult to cure." He escaped to the Continent, and soon afterwards succeeded in convincing his friends that he was perfectly sane. This occurred nearly eight years ago, during the whole of which time he has been attending to his business as usual, although, if he had not escaped, he might still be in confinement as a madman.

THE FOOT AND MOUTH JOKE.—An exchange speaks of a Chicago man who "has one foot in the grave." "Presume," says the *Boston Post*, "it's all they could get in without enlarging the cemetery."

Malmsbury, in Australia, is in a deplorable state. There is not a single marriageable man in the town. A correspondent writes to ask:—"Dear Mr. Editor, would you kindly use your influence in getting a consignment of single men sent to Malmsbury at once."

The ratio in Cheltenham at one time was nearly as bad—77 unmarried women to every unmarried man, and one-half of the men too old to think of marrying.

Never in the world's history, probably, did so many butchers find themselves inside a place of worship as last night.

Several thousands of "true blues"—as Mr. Spurgeon, always familiar, even with butchers, calls the gentlemen of the apron—met inside the Tabernacle.

Before meeting upstairs they meated in the lecture-room below. It was a most impressive sight.

Three thousand butchers feeding like one!

When they had finished (everything) the true blues went upstairs, where the chairman, Mr. Caine, M.P. begged his audience to give up drinking, and told them an irrelevant fable from Æsop. But the butchers, like the good-natured fellows they are, laughed.

After this a letter was read from Mr. Spurgeon, in which, in his usual way, that eminent preacher, without being profane, was familiar with sacred names, and the butchers, easy souls, laughed again.

And then Mr. Varley did the best bit of the night's work, by urging the butchers once again to root out the curse of gambling that is so rampant in the Meat Market. Indeed, he urged them to break the law in order to attain their end, promising to pay all the legal expenses for as many book-makers as the butchers liked to knock down!

Here the true blues laughed again, and, as the public-houses were not closed, went forth and refreshed.

The Salvation Army has been looked upon up till now as being a harmless, if erratic corps. But if it prove to be true, as stated by a man at Marylebone Police-court, the other day, that his daughter has been enticed away from home by the gallant band, it is time some steps were taken other than the vague suggestions thrown out by the magistrate to the applicant, who, as usual, in such cases, "thanked his worship and retired."

What constitutes "reckless" driving by servants, and how far the master is liable for the mischief thus caused, are vexed questions, and their complicated entanglements afford as much pleasure to the legal mind as they cause perplexity to the general public.

The broad principle is that if a servant does mischief with his master's vehicle, while on his master's business, the master is liable. If he is on his own business absolutely he is responsible himself.

But that is only the elementary aspect of the question. Here are a few of its niceties. If a man driving his master's carriage causes mischief by striking the horses of another conveyance with which he has come into collision—no matter how reckless the act, the master is liable, because the man was acting in pursuance of his employment. Again, if a man while during his employment were ordered to drive slower, and caused an accident by disobeying the order, the master would still be responsible, and for the same reason. And, again, if a driver of a public conveyance is forbidden by printed rules from obstructing a rival vehicle, but causes a mishap by doing so, the owners take the consequences, because the servant was acting in their interest, however wrongfully. And yet, again, if a man sent on his master's business takes a forbidden route to please himself, the master must take all results, because the man was on his business.

Summed up, the question seems to stand thus: In theory there is a limit to the master's liability for the servant's recklessness; in practice there is none

Law and Police.

Sir John Holker is familiarly known in North Lancashire as "Johnny," which is a testimony to the geniality of his nature.

But "Johnny," as his friends say admiringly of him, is more than genial—he is ingenious. He has been retained for the Tory defendants in some recent municipal election petitions at Liverpool, where the controversy has turned upon the right of voters to exercise the franchise in more than one ward.

It would seem that the Conservative managers sent out circulars to their friends telling them to vote in all the wards for which they were qualified, on the ground that duplicate voting was legal, but warned the Liberals against voting more than once on the ground that it was illegal. This looked odd, and the commissioner called it fraudulent; but hear "Johnny." "Where in the world," he asked, "was the harm, when there had been so much doubt and debate, in the Conservative managers saying to their friends, 'We believe you are entitled to vote duplicate—go and do so,' and then saying to their opponents in a warning manner, 'Great doubt exists as to whether you *can* vote duplicate, and you had better not do so if you wish to avoid the consequences'?"

One morning, some few weeks ago, Mr. Justice Fry arrived as usual at his dingy little Court under the Library of Lincoln's-inn, and discovered that the key of the cupboard in which he keeps his robes had been lost or mislaid by his clerk. As he had to take his seat upon the Bench within a few minutes, he pursued the most obvious of all courses and ordered the door to be broken open, at the same time telling an attendant to send in a requisition for its repair to the Board of Works. The requisition was sent in, and in due time came a curtly-worded reply to the effect that, as Mr. Justice Fry had damaged the door, Mr. Justice Fry had better mend it.

A certain functionary having offices in the New Law Courts entered a room which is ordinarily kept locked. The door swung back as he entered, the spring-bolt shot into its socket; and, horror! the key remained outside. The gentleman was due in Court in ten minutes, his presence was absolutely necessary for the despatch of business; yet he was imprisoned. In vain he shouted. No one heard him. At last, with some difficulty, he opened a window overlooking Bell-yard, and catching sight of one of his colleagues below, redoubled his cries. Fortunately he was heard, seen, and finally liberated; but not until he had shouted himself hoarse, and had kept the Court waiting for quite a serious number of seconds.

A gentleman has made a steam tricycle, and wishing to advertise it, has had himself summoned for travelling at a greater rate of speed than the law admits to "locomotives."

Of course, the question is whether a steam tricycle is "a locomotive" or not. In the meantime the abomination is being advertised.

Queen's Bench Division.—The case of Butcher v. Steere will be heard, on further consideration, by Mr. Justice Cave, in the Lords Justices Court, on Saturday next.

House of Lords.—The following causes are appointed to be considered to-morrow (Thursday) at 11 o'clock. Lord Blantyre and another *v.* the Trustees of the Clyde Navigation, Coltness Iron Company *v.* Black (on remit), Mackonochie *v.* Lord Penzance and another, *ex-parte* as to John Martin, Sir J. G. T. Sinclair, Bart., *v.* the Caithness Flagstone Quarrying Company and others.

Six per Cent. Debenture Bonds.

THE

WESTERN DISTRICT CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY,

LIMITED.

PORCHESTER HOUSE, 63, 65, & 67, BISHOP'S-ROAD, BAYSWATER, LONDON.

Issue of £13,000 Debenture Bonds of £10 Each.

Repayable in six years, carrying interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum. The Coupons attached to the Bonds will be payable to the bearer of a Bond half-yearly at the Society's Bankers, the National Bank, Notting-hill-gate, on the 25th day of September, and on the 25th day of March in each year. Issue price of Bonds par.

Share capital of the Society £10,000 of £1 each. 7,654 shares have been subscribed, £7,654 paid up.

The issue of these Debenture Bonds is made under the authority given to the Board of Directors, by the 75th Article Sub-Section H of the Articles of Association, and has been sanctioned by a General Meeting of Shareholders held on the 26th day of March, 1881.

The Directors of the WESTERN DISTRICT CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY, LIMITED, invite subscriptions for the above-mentioned Mortgage Debentures with interest coupons attached.

The Society purchased the three leases of the valuable property known as Porchester House, Nos. 63, 65, and 67, Bishop's-road, Bayswater, with frontages to Bishop's-road and Inverness-terrace. This property is held under three several leases. As to 63 and 65, Bishop's-road for an unexpired term of about 60 years, at a yearly ground rent of £15 per annum each; and No. 67 is held by under lease for a term of 21 years, from the 25th March, 1867, at a rental of £300.

The said property is mortgaged for sums amounting to £8,000.

Assets as per Balance Sheet passed at the General Meeting held on March 26th, 1881:—

	£	s.	d.
The estimated value of the leases calculated at 14 years' purchase is	9,425	8	8
The Society has expended on the premises for various improvements the sum of	634	11	4
Cost of fittings, &c.	1,163	0	9
Cost of furniture	679	12	7
Value of stock in hand on the 26th day of February, at cost price	4,744	0	3
Making a total value of assets, subject to Mortgages of £8,000	£16,646	13	7

The Society consists of 1,700 members, and which number is increasing. The weekly sales at the present time now average about £1,200, and the profits thereon are sufficient not only to enable the Society to pay its pay, but also to leave a surplus available for dividends.

The objects the Society has in view in making the present issue of Debenture Bonds are as follows:—

To further extend the operation of the Society by opening new departments, and to extend the lease of No. 67 to the same unexpired term as the leases of Nos. 63 and 65.

To pay off or reduce the existing mortgages on the leasehold premises of £8,000 out of all sums in excess of £5,000 received by the Society from the issue of the said Debentures, and so far as the same may extend, and thus effect a saving of interest.

If the amount subscribed be sufficient to pay off the existing mortgage these Debenture Bonds will be a first and preference charge on all the Society's assets, but in the event of such a sufficient sum not being raised as will allow the Directors to fully pay off the Mortgages they will be issued subject to such balance of Mortgage as may remain unpaid.

The Bonds will be to bearer with coupons attached. The latter will be payable at the Banking offices of the National Bank, Notting-hill-gate, W.

It is intended, so far as practicable, to keep a registrar of the holders of the Bonds at the offices of the Society. Applications will have to be made to the Secretary, 25 per cent. being paid on application, and the remaining 75 per cent. will be payable one month after allotment. Cheques must be made payable to the Secretary, and crossed "Account of the Western District Co-operative Society, Limited."

THE

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC BAROMETER.

(ADMIRAL FITZROY'S SYSTEM.)

This Instrument differs from all others in use by the application of a mechanical arrangement by which separate and distinct readings are given either for

SUMMER OR WINTER;

Together with Separate Indications of approaching Frost, Fog, Gales, or Calm.

Price, in Solid Oak Frame, from £4 4s.

One Month's Free Trial allowed prior to Payment.

Illustrated Circular, with Price List and over 1,000 Testimonials, sent Post-free on application.

JOSEPH DAVIS & Co., 6, Kennington Park Road, London, S.E.

CHARLES HAMPTON'S WHOLESALE PIANOFORTE CLUB,

ORIGINALLY ESTABLISHED TO SUPPLY CIVIL SERVANTS ON CO-OPERATIVE PRINCIPLES WITH

FIRST-CLASS PIANOS ONLY,

at a *bonâ fide* REDUCTION of 25 per cent. off Cash Prices, by MONTHLY PAYMENTS of One Guinea. Ballot Monthly, or Pianos may be had at once on payment of Five Guineas in advance, but this does not mean five guineas in addition.

PROSPECTUS AND "ANSWERS TO QUERIES" FREE.

74, CHARLOTTE-STREET, FITZROY-SQUARE, W.

LOCAL SECRETARIES REQUIRED.

ESTABLISHED 1851.

London: Printed by W. SPEAIGHT AND SONS, at 97, 98 and 99, Fetter-lane, E.C., and Published for the Proprietor by FREDERICK EVANS, at the Office, 1, York-street, Covent-garden, London, W.C.—Wednesday, April 6, 1881.